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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urgent	<input type="checkbox"/> For Review
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Comments:

Recall that the BPAI reversed the examiner, but I cannot allow all the outstanding claims until the following antecedence basis problems are resolved. Please prepare a corrected set of claims and fax them to me at 571-273-6717 as a proposed examiner's amendment. I must act on this case by 19 May 2006. Marked claims are attached and the problem list is as follows.

Claim 1: At the 7th line from the end, "the program office" lacks antecedent basis. Suggest replacing these three words with "a program office database".

Claims 3-5 and 7: at line 1 or 1-2 of each, "the (at least one) user interface" lacks antecedent basis.

At claim 16, lines 1-2, "the data associated with translating progress milestones" lacks antecedent basis.

At claim 22 line 1, "information" should be "informational". Please do a spell check to catch any other instances.

At claim 26 lines 1-2, "the update data" lacks antecedent basis, but changing the dependency from claim 24 to claim 25 can solve the problem.

Claims 48 and 49: respectively in the second line of each, "project table" and "account table" have no antecedent basis in parent claim 32. Suggested resolution: change dependency for both claims from claim 32 to claim 47.

Claim 60: At the second line, there is no antecedent basis for "other data source". Suggest replacing these three words with "source other than the program office database".

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IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (Currently Amended) A program office management system, comprising:
computer software stored on a computer readable storage medium and operable to:
store informational data associated with accounts, projects, and programs;
store financial data associated with the accounts, projects, and programs;
store schedule and progress data associated with the accounts, projects, and programs;
store data associated with personnel, roles, and security access information thereof;
store a plurality of predefined tactics wherein each of the plurality of predefined tactics
comprises an approach taken to affect change on a project;

associate one or more predetermined project milestone categories with at least some of
the plurality of predefined tactics;

store update data associated with the progress, actual expenditures, and labor resources
of the projects and programs;

wherein the data associated with the security access information of personnel comprise a
role definition of a coordinator having authorization to assign one or more persons to the at least
one business unit, assign at least one role to each person, and add projects and accounts for the
at least one business unit;

wherein the data associated with the security access information of personnel comprise a
role table operable to store at least one valid role, and an authorization hierarchical organization
of the at least one valid role, wherein the authorization hierarchical organization is associated
with increasing levels of data access; and

wherein the data associated with the security access information of personnel associates
at least one of the valid roles relevant to the project to each person;

display data stored in the program office according to a predetermined security scheme
based on the security access information stored in the program office database;

upon selection of a first tactic, comprising one of the plurality of predefined tactics, by a
user for use on a particular project, automatically associating with the particular project at least
one milestone having a particular milestone category that was previously associated with the
first tactic; and

receive the update data on a periodic basis.

a program office database

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2. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the program office database comprises a plurality of relational data structures.

3. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the at least one user interface comprises at least one web-based user interface.

4. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the at least one user interface comprises at least one self-extracting executable user interface.

5. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the at least one user interface comprises at least one program office interface.

6. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the program office database comprises more than one copy of the data residing in more than one distributed databases.

7. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises more than one copy of the user interface residing in more than one distributed computing system.

8. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the data associated with security access information of personnel comprise an assignment table associating a person to at least one role defined within a business unit.

9. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the data associated with security access information of personnel comprise an assignment table associating a person to at least one role defined within a business unit, and further to at least one predefined update authority level set by a person having a senior management role within the business unit.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

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12. (Cancelled)

✓ 13. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the data associated with security access information of personnel comprise a role definition of an account manager capable of having authorization to update account data and project data.

✓ 14. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the data associated with security access information of personnel comprise a role definition of a project manager capable of having authorization to update project data.

15. (Cancelled)

→ 16. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the data associated with translating progress milestones comprise a data table operable to map milestones predefined in a project to milestone categories predefined within the program office database.

17. (Cancelled)

✓ 18. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the financial data comprise:

a project forecast table operable to store at least one current budget forecast amount for the project; and

a project forecast history table operable to store an original budget forecast amount if it is different than the at least one current budget forecast amount.

✓ 19. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the financial data comprise:

an account forecast table operable to store at least one revenue and expense budget amount associated with an account; and

an account actual table operable to store at least one revenue and expense actual amount associated with the account.

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✓ 20. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the informational data comprise a project table, operable to store informational data associated with at least one project identified by a project identifier.

✓ 21. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 20, wherein the project table comprises:

- a project identifier uniquely identifying each project;
- a business unit identifier of a business unit to which the project belongs to;
- at least one person identifier of a person assigned a role having a predetermined responsibility for the project; and
- a status flag indicative of whether the project is active, pending, or inactive.

→ 22. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the information²¹ data include an account table comprising:

- an account identifier uniquely identifying each account;
- a business unit identifier of a business unit to which the account belongs to; and
- a person identifier of a person assigned the role of an account manager for the account.

✓ 23. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the schedule and progress data comprise a milestone actual table operable to store an amount of progress into a specific milestone for a given period for a project.

✓ 24. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the schedule and progress data comprise:

- a project identifier of a project;
- a milestone defined for the project;
- a reporting period; and
- a percentage completion value of the milestone in the reporting period independent of forecast or actuals.

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✓ 25. (Original) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the update data comprise:

a project actual table operable to store actual expenditure amounts spent during a specific reporting period for a project; and

a milestone actual table operable to store a percentage completion value of a specific milestone defined for a project during the specific reporting period.

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~~25~~ 26. (Previously Presented) The system, as set forth in Claim ~~25~~ 24, wherein the update data further comprise an account actual table operable to store actual expenditure amounts spent during the specific reporting period for an account.

✓ 27. (Previously Presented) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the program office database further comprises a user weight table operable to store a weight value indicative of importance for each system affected by the projects and programs.

✓ 28. (Previously Presented) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the program office database further comprises a project roadblock table operable to store information about a problem encountered in a project identified by a project identifier and to enable escalated reporting to upper management about unresolved problems.

✓ 29. (Previously Presented) The system, as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the project roadblock table comprises:

roadblock type;

date and time that the problem was encountered; and

data on how and when the problem was resolved.

✓ 30. (Previously Presented) The system, as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the program office database further comprises a transaction log table operable to record what changes were made to data stored in the program office database, who made the changes, and when the changes were made.

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✓ 45. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, wherein storing and accessing the financial data comprise:

storing and accessing a project forecast table having at least one current budget forecast amount for the project; and

storing and accessing a project forecast history table operable to store an initial budget forecast amount if it is different than the at least one current budget forecast amount.

✓ 46. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, wherein storing and accessing the financial data comprise:

storing and accessing an account forecast table operable to store at least one revenue and expense budget amount associated with an account; and

storing and accessing an account actual table operable to store at least one revenue and expense actual amount associated with the account.

✓ 47. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, wherein storing and accessing ~~the informational data~~ comprise:

storing and accessing a project table operable to store informational data associated with at least one project identified by a project identifier; and

storing and accessing an account table operable to store informational data associated with at least one account identified by an account identifier.

→ 48. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim ~~32~~⁴⁷, wherein storing and accessing the project table comprise:

storing a project identifier uniquely identifying each project and using the project identifier as a primary key to the project table;

storing and accessing a business unit identifier of a business unit to which the project belongs to;

storing and accessing a person identifier of a person assigned at least one role for the project; and

storing and accessing a status flag indicative of whether the project is active, pending, or inactive.

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49. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, wherein storing and accessing the account table comprise:

storing and accessing an account identifier uniquely identifying each account;

storing and accessing a business unit identifier of a business unit to which the account belongs to; and

storing and accessing a person identifier of a person assigned the role of an account manager for the account.

50. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, wherein storing and accessing the schedule and progress data comprise storing and accessing a milestone actual table having an amount of progress into a specific milestone for a given period for a project.

51. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, wherein storing and accessing the schedule and progress data comprise:

storing and accessing a project identifier of a project;

storing and accessing a milestone defined for the project;

storing and accessing a reporting period; and

storing and accessing a percentage completion value of the milestone in the reporting period.

52. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, wherein storing and accessing the update data comprise:

storing and accessing a project actual table having actual expenditure amounts spent during a specific reporting period for a project; and

storing and accessing a milestone actual table having a percentage completion value of a specific milestone defined for a project during the specific reporting period.

53. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 52, wherein storing and accessing the update data further comprise storing and accessing an account actual table having actual expenditure amounts spent during the specific reporting period for an account.

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54. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, further comprising storing and accessing a user weight table having a weight value indicative of importance for each system affected by the projects and programs.

55. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, further comprising: storing and accessing a project roadblock table having information about a problem encountered in a project identified by a project identifier; and reporting any problem to management unresolved after a predetermined time period.

56. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 55, wherein storing and accessing the project roadblock table comprise:
storing and accessing a roadblock type;
storing and accessing a date and time that the problem was encountered; and
storing and accessing data on how and when the problem was resolved.

57. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, further comprising storing and accessing a transaction log table having what changes were made to data stored in the program office database, who made the changes, and when the changes were made.

58. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 33, wherein storing and accessing the data comprise storing and accessing data via a web browser-based user interface implementing a security scheme using the role and update authorization level assignment to the users.

59. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 33, wherein storing and accessing update data comprise storing the update data via a self-extracting spread sheet-based user interface implementing a security scheme using the role and update authorization level assignment to the users.

60. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in Claim 32, further comprising: retrieving data from at least one other data source; and verifying data in the program office database with the data from the at least one other data source.

source other than the program office database